



Atty. Ref.: P1276US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Appl. No. : 10/680,991

Filed : October 8, 2003

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

MS Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF OMITTED ITEMS**

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted as a response to Option III on the January 5, 2004 Notice of Omitted Items. Please amend the application as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

MS Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
on January 12, 2004  
Marie B. Bufalo

*Marie B. Bufalo*